



January 11, 2006

Dear Resident,

With the rainy season upon us, we would like to take this opportunity to review our policies on moisture intrusion, water damage, and specifically, mold and mildew. We would also like to provide you with tips for preventing mold and mildew growth in your home.

As stated in your lease and/or your Resident Responsibility guide, you are responsible for doing the following to prevent the growth of mold and/or mildew in your home:

- Provide appropriate climate control
- Clean and dust your home on a regular basis
- Remove visible moisture accumulation on windows, walls, and other surfaces as soon as reasonably possible
- Not block or cover any of the heating or ventilation systems in your home

Additionally, you are required to promptly report any of the following to the housing office (or maintenance):

- Any evidence of a water leak or excessive moisture in your home, as well as in any storage room, garage, or other common area
- Any evidence of mold- or mildew-like growth that cannot be removed by simply applying a common household cleaner and wiping the area
- Any failure or malfunction in the heating or ventilation system in your home
- Any inoperable doors or windows in your home

Your lease and/or your Resident Responsibility Guide make it clear that you will be responsible for damage to your home and your property resulting from your failure to comply with these policies.

Other tips to prevent the growth of household mold and mildew include:

- In the kitchen and bathroom, open windows or use exhaust fans when engaging in activities that produce moisture.
- Keep larger furniture (e.g., sofas, beds) several inches away from the wall to allow for some "breathing room."
- Use a dehumidifier to regulate the humidity levels (40%-60% is considered ideal) in your home. Non-mechanical dehumidifiers (products such as "Dry Out") can be bought at local drug stores and the commissary. These products are ideal for collecting moisture from small areas such as closets.
- Mold grows rapidly on substances such as paper, books, and clothes in dark, humid conditions. Store these items accordingly.

For more information on mold and mildew, you can also visit the following websites:

Environmental Protection Agency	www.epa.gov
California Indoor Air Quality Program	www.cal-iaq.org
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	www.cdc.gov

Our goal is to make sure your stay with us is safe, secure, and comfortable as you carry out your important assignments at the Defense Language Institute, Naval Postgraduate School, or related missions. We wish you and your family a very Happy New Year and success in 2006!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Barrett
Community Director
The Parks at Monterey Bay